

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	John W. Stewart, Wendy R. Cartee and Truman Joe	Confirmation No.	5407
Serial No.:	10/660,303	Group Art Unit:	2444
Filed:	September 11, 2003	Customer No.:	72689
Examiner:	Yemane Mesfin		
Docket No.:	1014-067US01/JNP-0314		
Title:	AUTOMATIC ESTABLISHMENT OF NETWORK PERFORMANCE MONITORING COMMUNITIES USING ROUTING PROTOCOLS		

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**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following comments be placed into the prosecution record prior to issuance of the above-identified application.

Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's Statement for Reasons for Allowance and respectfully submit that other Reasons for Allowance also exist. Applicants also point out that the different independent claims are not identical, and that the specific limitations addressed by the Examiner in the Statement for Reasons for Allowance do not appear verbatim in every independent claim. To the extent that the entire language recited by the Examiner in the Statement for Reasons for Allowance appears verbatim in one of Applicant's claims, Applicants agree with the Examiner that these limitations define at least one reason for allowance, although other reasons may also exist. Further, Applicant's dependent claims are allowable for additional reasons not cited by the Examiner.

Date: *July 23, 2004*  
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